**Principal's News**

**Swimming Sports**

Due to excessive heat which is forecast for this Friday we have postponed the swimming sports. We are awaiting confirmation on the rescheduled date and will let you know as soon as possible. Years 7-10 this week will participate in trials in their normal PE classes for the NCD Swimming Sports which be held on Monday 20th February at St Arnaud.

**Newsletter**

Please note this week is the last week of a printed newsletter distributed to students. The newsletter from next week will be emailed every Tuesday to each family. If you do not receive an email please contact June as we may have an incorrect email address. The newsletter is also available on the school website: www.pyramidhillc.vic.edu.au. If families require a hard copy of the newsletter please contact June to arrange this.

**STATE SCHOOLS’ RELIEF 2017**

Parents of 2017 Year 7 students who are eligible for the Camps and Excursions Funding are also eligible for a Year 7 Uniform Pack. As our Year 7 students are already in school uniform it may still be used to order extra uniform supplies or to order the next size up for future use. I urge those eligible to carefully read the attached information and please do not hesitate to contact me to begin the application process.

If there are any families of students from other year levels that are experiencing hardship and the provision of school uniform/booklists is difficult, please contact me.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

Nominations are now being called for the vacant positions on School Council. Please consider becoming involved in this vital aspect of the College governance. Your views and input would be greatly appreciated and are a critical aspect of the effective functioning of the College.

Nominations open on **Monday 6th February** and close on **Monday 20th February**. A ballot, if needed, will close on **Friday, 24th February**. The first meeting of the new Council will be on **Tuesday, 14th March**. Parent Representatives whose two years term has finished are Rowan Broad, Travis Gilmore, Kellie Stewart, Alison Farrar, Colleen Hampson. There are **five parent vacancies** on School Council - to make up the total constituting order of 8 parent members. The DET Representative whose term has finished is Rebecca Nunn, who was co-opted for 12 months last year, so there is one DET position vacant. Outgoing members, parents and staff are encouraged to stand for School Council, as a vibrant and active School Council is a key ingredient to the effective running of the College. Thank you to everyone on School Council and in particular to outgoing members for their support, efforts and contributions to the college. Nomination forms are available from the College.

Fiona Moon, Principal
Year F-6 News

Homework
Year 2/3/4 Homework will not commence homework until the week of 6th March, after the swimming program.

Camps, Excursions this year
Year F/1 - Day excursion to Sovereign Hill Ballarat
Year 2-4 - Two day camp to Sovereign Hill, Ballarat
Year 5/6 - optional 5 day camp to Canberra, with East Loddon P-12 College students.
Year F-6 students - opportunity to attend the musical “Aladdin” in Melbourne in August
Cost and dates for all will be advised as soon as possible.

If you have a Health Care Card, don’t forget to apply for the Camps, Sports & Excursion funding. Forms available from the office.

Welcome to our Preps for 2017
Charlotte Pickles, Archer Lee, Beau Woodbine, Tristan Broad, Tyler Manton, Thomas Hercott,

General Information

Red Sports Polo Shirts
Are available for PE and Sports - if you are new to the school or have grown out of your current shirt, please fill out an order form, (available from the Office) and return to school ASAP - we have orders ready to go to be embroidered.
   Shirts without names - $17
   Shirts with logo and name on back - $20

School Requisites
Payment for all school requisites should be paid as soon as possible please. If you are unsure about what is owing, please contact the office. Parents are able to use EFTPOS (available in the office) or Online Banking for any payments to school.
Banking details are:
BSB 083-693
A/c No. 60880 2159
Please identify your payment when processing.

Home Eco Payments
These can be paid by term - $30
   For the whole year - $120
or $3.50 per session.
If payments are not made, students will not be allowed to take their cooking home, so please make sure payment is made by one of the methods. Home Eco costs are heavily subsidised by the school and students are only asked to pay a minimum amount.

Student/Parent Information
Some parent email addresses, are incorrect on our records - so if you have changed any of your contact details eg mobile phone, email, emergency contact, address, etc., could you please let June know, so records can be updated.

Uniform
The College has a supply of blue polos, red sports polos and school jackets, so if you are needing these items, please call in to the office. The Op Shop has a plentiful supply of second hand uniform items, particularly for boys.

Head Lice
Please keep a check on your children’s hair and tie long hair back for school
Year 7-10 News

Coming up
This term we have Berwick Secondary College visiting to work with Year 9 and 10 students. We will be having a Year 7/8 team building camp later in the term or early term 2, and Year 9/10 will have an Arts Connect trip to Melbourne in term 2 or 3 to undertake cultural and vocational activities.

Year 9/10 Food
A reminder that students need to pay for these classes - $4 per session

Managed Individual Pathways
Our MIPS coordinator Sue Clay will be meeting with Year 9 & 10 students regularly this year. This time will be spent getting to know our students and assisting them with thoughts and plans for the future.

Mrs L Talbot
7-10 Neighbourhood Leader

Sports Polos
If you are planning on purchasing a red sports polo and wish your name/nickname etc printed on the back, please come and order ASAP as we have some ready to go for embroidery.

100% Attendance
Make it your goal for 2017

Stressed about high school costs?
Would $500 help pay for uniforms, books, excursions, tutoring, a laptop or tablet?

Saver Plus can match your savings for school costs, dollar for dollar, up to $500.

You may be eligible if:
- you have a Health Care or a Pensioner Concession card and;
- your or your partner have some regular income from work such as full-time, part-time, casual or seasonal work.

Contact Carol Gledhill
your local Saver Plus Coordinator:
03 5448 1024 / 0439 935 516
or carol.gledhill@bsl.org.au

Saver Plus was developed by ANL and the Brotherhood of St Laurence and is funded in the Greater Bendigo area by the Brotherhood of St Laurence. The program is funded by ANL and the Australian Government. Find out more information at saverplus.tas.au.
Dear Parent,

Would $500 help you to afford next year’s school costs, including uniforms, school books or a laptop? You or someone you know may be eligible to join a local savings program and receive $500 for education costs.

Brotherhood of St Laurence is delivering Saver Plus in the Pyramid Hill and Loddon region and is currently looking for more people to join the program.

**Saver Plus** is a 10-month program that can assist you to save for your own or your children’s education. Participants receive:

- one dollar in matched savings from ANZ for every one dollar saved, up to $500
- MoneyMinded financial workshops, and
- personal support and guidance from a trusted community organisation.

At the end of the program you can use your matched savings to purchase an education-related item, such as a computer, laptop, school camps/excursions and text books.

You may be eligible to join if you:

◊ have a current Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card
◊ are at least 18 years old
◊ have some regular income from work, (yourself or your partner) including casual, part-time, full-time seasonal work
◊ have a child at school, or be attending vocational education yourself.

It’s easy to find out more and all correspondence will be kept confidential. Contact your local Saver Plus Coordinator Carol Gledhill by phoning 5448 1024 or emailing carol.gledhill@bsl.org.au, or return the slip below to school, and we can call you.

Kind regards,

Carol Gledhill
Saver Plus Coordinator

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**Expression of Interest in Saver Plus**

I/We___________________________ would like more information and give permission for Saver Plus to call me on Ph:__________________________ Best time to Call __________________________

Preliminary eligibility check – tick criteria met:

- Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card
- Regular paid employment
- Child at school or attending next year, or I am attending vocational education myself
- I have not participated in Saver Plus and received matched funds before

Saver Plus is an initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ and delivered in partnership with Berry Street, The Benevolent Society and The Smith Family and other local community agencies. The program is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government. For more information call 1300 610 355 or visit www.bsl.org.au/Saver-Plus.